



Hawaii hosts change-of-command ceremony

by Rich Garcia, Directed Energy Directorate

MAUI, HAWAII — Maj. J. Raley Marek and Maj. F. Joseph Bishop exchanged command of Air Force Research Laboratory facilities on September 1.

Marek assumed command of the laboratory's Detachment 15 as well as becoming chief of the Space Surveillance Systems Branch of the laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate. Bishop moved to a new assignment at the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles AFB, Calif.

Among his responsibilities, Marek oversees the operation of the Defense Department's largest telescope — a 3.67-meter electro-optical space surveillance system — and a \$115 million supercomputer system known as the Maui High Performance Computing Center. He also supervises the work of 14 military and government civilian employees and oversee seven contracts valued at \$86 million with more than 200 contractor people.

With a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, and a master's degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, both in electrical engineering, Marek has been in the U.S. Air Force since 1986. His career includes assignments in engineering, logistics, intelligence, nuclear weapons, and research and development. He served at Kelly AFB, Texas, and Kirtland AFB, N.M., and in the Washington, D.C. area.

Among his military awards, Marek has a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, a Meritorious Service Medal, an Air Force Commendation Medal and an Air Force Achievement Medal.

Bishop's career has included tours in engineering, space operations, acquisition, and research and development. He served at Vandenberg AFB and Onizuka AFB, both in California, and in the Washington, D.C. area. He has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Norwich University and two master's degrees: one in systems management from the University of Southern California and the other in astronautical engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. @